

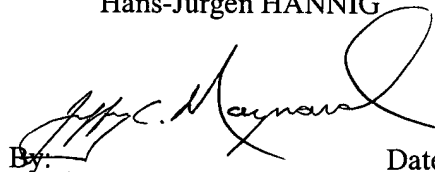
**REMARKS**

Entry and consideration of this Preliminary Amendment is respectfully requested prior to or concurrent with calculation of the fees and prior to examination of the instant application on the merits. This Preliminary Amendment is submitted in order to add appropriate paragraph headings and to separate and remove multiple dependencies in claims 1-7.

Claims 1-7 are canceled herein, and new claims 8-14 have been added. Thus, claims 8-14 are pending in the application.

Examination on the merits of this application is awaited.

Respectfully submitted,  
Hans-Jürgen HANNIG

 4/2/06  
By: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Jeffrey C. Maynard  
Reg. No. 46,208  
Attorney for Applicant  
WHITEFORD, TAYLOR & PRESTON L.L.P.  
Seven Saint Paul Street  
Baltimore, Maryland 21202-1626  
Phone: (410) 347-9496  
Fax: (410) 234-2324